

Amendments to the Specification:

1. At page 1, before the heading "Field of the Invention", please insert the following new paragraph:

Cross Reference to Related Application

This Application is a 35 USC §371 National Phase Entry Application from PCT/CA04/002119, filed Dec. 13, 2004, and designating the U.S., which claims priority of U.S. Provisional Application No. 60/528,723, filed Dec. 12, 2003, the contents of each of which are hereby incorporated by reference in their entirety.

2. Page 1, replace line 3 with the following heading:

FIELD OF THE INVENTION

3. Page 4, replace lines 14-15 with the following paragraph:

In an embodiment of the invention, the autophagocytosis inducing compound may be Map1LC3, GABARAP, GATE16, or Class III PI3'kinase.

4. Page 16, replace lines 1-30 with the following paragraphs:

For example, the autophagocytosis inhibiting compound may be an antisense DNA or RNA molecule engineered to inhibit transcription or expression of proteins which inhibit or down regulate autophagocytosis. For example, the autophagocytosis inducing compound may be an antisense sequence designed to block transcription or expression of Class I PI3'kinase, a known inhibitor of autophagocytosis.

The autophagocytosis inducing compound may be a recombinant DNA molecule which encodes for a protein which promotes induction/initiation of autophagocytosis. For example, the autophagocytosis inducing compound may be a recombinant DNA molecule encoding for an autophagocytosis agonist such as Map1LC3, GABARAP, GATE16, or Class III PI3' kinase.

The autophagocytosis inducing compound may be an antibody or antibody fragment which selectively recognizes and binds to proteins which inhibit or down regulate autophagocytosis. For example, the autophagocytosis inducing compound may be an antibody which binds to Class I PI3'kinase.

The autophagocytosis inducing compound may be a recombinant DNA molecule which encodes for a protein which promotes induction/initiation of autophagocytosis. For example, the autophagocytosis inducing compound may be a recombinant DNA molecule encoding for an autophagocytosis agonist such as be Map1LC3 (microtubule associated protein 1 light chain 3/LC3), GABARAP (γ -aminobutyric acid (GABA)_A - receptor-associated protein), GATE16 (Golgi-associated ATPase enhancer of 16kDa) and Class III PI3'kinase. These proteins have been identified as agonists for the induction/initiation of the autophagocytosis in yeast (Mizushima et al., 2003, Int. J. Biochem. and Cell Biology **35**, 553-561) and mammalian cells. Isoforms of each the preceding proteins may be used to prepare the pharmaceutical compositions according the invention. For example, Map1LC3 exists in two isoforms in the rat (I and II) and in three isoforms in humans, A, B and C.

Alternatively, the autophagocytosis inducing compound may be a protein which promotes autophagocytosis such as, but not limited to be Map1LC3,

5. Page 17, replace line 1 with the following:

GABARAP, GATE16, and Class III PI3'kinase.

6. Page 25, replace lines 1-5 with the following paragraph:

In a preferred embodiment of the invention, the treatment of prevention of disorders resulting from or associated with elevated serum levels of triglycerides and/or VLDL is accomplished by administering a therapeutically effective amount of Map1LC3, GABARAP, GATE16, Class III PI3' kinase or a combination thereof.